多日本国特許庁(JP)

@公表特許公報(A)

@ 特許出版公表 \P4-502490

®Int.Cl. 5 C 22 B B 22 F C 91 G

庁内能逐番号

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6公表 平汞4年(1992)5月7日 **肥門(区分) 3(4)**

(全 8 頁)

多発明の名称 金属類、合金類及びセラミック材料類の製造法

學別記号

公押 顧 平2-501670 第4世 関 平1(1989)12月21日 会は988年12月22日@オーストラリア(AU)命P12092

各類択文提出日 平3(1991)6月21日 **●部 際 出 駅 PCT/AUS9/e0550** @四座公振参号 WO90/07012 **@回**慰公開日 平2(1990)6月28日

に至り込ますることを希腊とする、前才項2页は技术項3の方法。

) 0. 複雑的媒性化を耐火的に実施することを存储とする。先行

はき取りいざれた……のざれ

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** O P E

4 まらに別の企業及び/又はメクロイドを反応変数数はお何め

ルマカムに関め会保ではくせっくどら会議者会供では会の名は物力

AT(広城特許), AU, BE(広城特許), CH(広城特許), DE(広城特許), ES(広城特許), FI, FR(広城 特許), GB(広域特許), 1 T(広域特許), JP, KP, KR, LU(広域特許), NL(広域特許), NO, SE(広 域符許), SU,US

最終質に続く

優先権主導

1、少なくとも一つの単元社会集化会物と少なくとも一つの運光 5、少なくとも一つの選先利及び非金属又は非金属を提給する化 前の混合物を機械的感性化の対し、金銭叉は合金を生成させ、 会物の存在下、少なくとも一つの理免益金属化会別を繊維的調性化 所望により集全幕又は非企業を供給する化会物を展花鏡会物中に だけし、サフミック材料金成物を発収させることを特徴とする。 数 食有させてヤラミック材料金成物を建設させ、そして/又は 未收 (G 方提。 用温により少なくとも一つの後の金属又はメナライドを、セラミッ 4 # \$ F MOAR BY / 7 # 1 # D / F & D R BANC & B + **リ材料又な会会を成物に取り込むために便応提合物に会有させるこ** せて、よらに別の金属及び/又はノタマイドをセラミッタ材料生成 とを特殊とする、金属、金金叉はセラミック材料の空収出。 物のに取り込ませることを検査とする。独立形ちの方は、 7、反応混合物を油エネルギーボールミル的枠により複雑的に活 2 少なくとも一つの周光系の存在下、減免性食具化食物を機械 构造性化に付し、金属生成物を生成させることを特殊とする。雑味 性化することを特殊とする、先行請求項のいずれか一つの方法。 用しの方は。 3、金属築造合物又は金金金成物を造成させるのに用いるれる少 とする、允付頭求事のいずれか一つの方法。 なくとも一つの資産剤の数据下、二叉はそれ以上の風光性会議代金 9 報及間も定式なる他に重加することを構造とする。今野神文 柏敷を構模的施設化に付すことを特徴とする、諸泉項しの方法。 葉のいずれか一つの方法。

特 表 平 4-502490 (2) 化物又は酸化物であることを物致とする、排水項1叉は5ないし1

8のいずれか一つの方法。 17、セラミック対称造成物が収穫等はであることを仲能とする。

顕彰別(又は多ないし)ものいずれか一つの方法。

- (1) 産売物金基化の物が金属域化物等、硫化物域、ハッケン化 物等、水素化物格、変化物素、仮化物素とグラスリン型域値から 通便されることを特別をする。元行展本限のいずれか一つの方面。 12、展売割がコのシウム、マブモシラム及びで15ヶの本の道
- 択されることを特置とする、先行技术項のいずれか一つの方益。 **1.3、進発薬が責化水舎に必解したアルキルシチウム、直体アン
- *23、 選及器が我化が異な必要しなアルキルシテラム、必定すン キャア正確保しなアルカリ金額及びテトリウム・カリウム含金から 連切される成体であることを何限とする、請求項目ないしませかい ずれか一つの方比。
- 1 4、 風気病が水井。塩素及び一味化資素から選択される効果で あることも特殊なする、誘発性)ないし11のいずれか一つの方法。
- 16. 方法により金銭される金属、金金又はセテミック科技が始 程均収収予を対することを得象とする、先行技术項のいずれかーツ の方法。
- 1 G. セラミック時候放牧がセラミックホク化物、反応物、産 新 昭 幸

これにより、充分な高度を対象に含することができる。

会もんどの機関をおり、資金を経済が高度し、これらしていており 企業を注意し、現った時間を打断目的を共いてもとなります。 も、のる場合には物を重ねている主要を製造することには其内に固 がなるもかあり、分類から物をは自な過ぎで表向から必定 するを考えがある計画することがある。かだか可見参加す 遺産で考えがある知识であるよう。、一戸様では至る金を取むこ 道慮だする。このようながある。参加を実施的可能のなどに対い からる最大的を知识であるよう。一戸を下が至る金を取むこ 道の場合に対していまった。そと等で表面の可能と同い からる最大能を工事とかままままます。これ ののこれは見まがとしてのようなように、100でによっな

それの公共共産政の今後的ドチェンとはよる企業のが基金目標 アポル、指数的合金化力率としておられている。現代的合金化連水、 静板又は高速度を必要とすることはく、政権機能を担づ的第十分の 金田の報道を可能でする。現状の合金化力能は、第二メルギーギー 11-0年で変数とうも、1-5分割者のよる、ギーメー製をエボー

金属機、含金属及びサチェッタ料料機の返済設 水売時は、金属原、含金属及びセラミッタ料料機の製造を開作 も、より戻しくは、本発明は、遅光を全限な合物に関いる機能的消化 化、化等原元に対し、金属機、含金属又はセラミッタ料料を全面 することに関する。

大型分の企業元正等は、共立では、配名が300、数化物は、現化 物能元はすり最高額として存在する。最初工程は、一個に続くから 取り続化する場合、合化物理元がノスはリン制性部の分割型が企業化物。 同化物表がノスはリン関係の発金関係が参する一スはそれが止める 元工を参載し、

一男、海正芸祖、規算されている昔の元素をは終めてあるが、 集官、他作物、日心物なグブスはコン教をが第二のよう正の集命 もっ元元素により過去される心学を考えな可能により流動される者 私が年度からいずれから会か、を守確元過去は、しばしは、気軽ス な必要かで好なから一大はそれ以上の何を令けっ直点を送をとし、

後表于4-502498 (3)

本表がポーカーや第二字接着内容配出外によって制をした機能会が 成の項に示す。各色に方面は、対策的なよう対抗した配子的に 液理な質量や欠点でみませればださして知るか、欠点な時間を たもことにより、機能的な金化方面はデモリーので表の含色を製造 である。機能を発えなる製造することは、されないれば不能でかった た機能的会生を形でより入場をから合金化を製造することが可能で あることを示す。又、機能の含金化を製造することが可能で の場点、度では全域的企業が発表が必要なら金化を示す場合。で セルファスを金化を設定するのに扱いることができる。 ス美別は、実行自念部(金)を持つよる業を製工の含金化を製造す

ものに海上に「無味的地位化、化学選系」と除するが実な化学展示な 油に関する。実践可能は代、化学選系方等は、本質的は、最初的血 金化方法の選用である。 現場的機能化、収字展元の間、化学書気が 現場的時期の認為として起これ。金剛化金物(等)を全業文の企立と 選挙するととなる。

本発明の機械们提性化、化学展光方法は、又、セタミック特料器、

武会衛又は会会主取物を生成するのに用いうる。

なりがお願う製造に及ぶ。即ち、为念は、対金属指定が先の金属服 ズにノテロイド集を含むされらの含金額かり金属温度がノ又はフテ ロイド集をされらの経済的の定点のうるセティックが料理に変が金 低物を解説さることができる。

即ち、会運撃長び井倉展集の化会物業である一気はそれ以上の調を

本発明によれば、少なくとも選先権企業化会物と少なくとも一つ の選売制の減会物を機械的活性化に付し、金属又はお金金を金成ませ、

が決立より事を実工以か会員を対けったの数を 2.50 議会をいた 会者をママット・ア科特と物を収取る。 さしてプスは、 対策によっななくとも一つの数での最大なレッテェイドを、マフェッ リ州和エルックなくとも一つの数での最大なレッテェイドを、マフェッ リ州和エルックなくとも一つのはでの成界場合物にあれるものと ともがまとする業界、金素又はマラリ・アダドの制度にも見ずる。 別ち、力度の一部様では、少なくとも一つの選手所の名が、選及 文章を含めた機能的が近点により、金素は販売を含まっても多い。

附って以付は前のは日の金典及びプスはメアッイでも変に最合語では金額にてもよく、これにより、この後の金属及びプスはメアッイ ドを金集、金属自合型又は金金を設備があるとから。 さらに他の影響では、糸金集又は今金を支出する危力的も交が 点の型などあります。 ここではス、他の金属及びプスはメアッイでも気が変色的の止点 だった。この他の金属及びプスはメアッイでも気が変色的の止点 だった。この他の金属及びプスはメアッイでも気が変色的の止点 には、第2×2年でイールに入場でよりでもつまり、7分間を した。第2×2年でイールに入場でよりでは、無数的設性 には、第2×2年でイールに入場でよりが表現を別につる時代 が、ボールを関する。他にかよし、電車の大力をあれたエルター が、ボールを関する。そのた力があるとなり、大力に向機的。 これでの一般とでは、アイルに対している。大力に向機的。

La de

親エルターモール 10月で、製剤科学、別えば金属企業を受け、 貯金属(株)又は中島県(数)を利用する ためれて(等)、及び利用税はデ は、終り返し変形し、物かし、そして数金であ、物子で利用するを 一心間にはまるし、表力が10世でを走むし、関かし、原子のには減 では、いき場合立する。返車の電影が20世できる。それられ立いに 等金する。このような影響は容易に収まされるので、よの砂砂性が は、ほうしくなる機能と対象を対すがか。

汲まり、水イで、インは、円はの消費を取り回じられても、 でもえい。 水はで、1 かは、円はの消費をの利用を利用を取ります。 よく合うから、汲りママーナーで用途を目的さな、可能を出版に ドナルをでなってーも出版する。このよくな解析は、定即りを 用 1 かようら1 のほは上の原剤を配っますことができる。「アナ サイチー(minital)」として一般に知られているこのだった。 水機能を取り、アイル、あらをできなイナーエットにカーエングの エーン・アンティ、5 気、1 5 7 3、の - 2 2 から 5 - 3 0 東 に配金されてい。 似て、 第2 4 7 5 3、0 - 2 2 7 6 5 4 - 3 0 東 に配金されてい。 似て、 第2 4 7 5 5 6 - 2 2 7 6 5 4 - 3 0 東

符表平4-502490 (4)

ヘルミル、例えば米国特許原も,627.959号記載のものであり うち。

機能的遺性化は基本のキャーボールよの以外の手能によって達し うることが認識されらるである。本場称音では、別談情報的が 他化川は、機能的手能によって於来粒子の変形、所の及び影布を試 して全ての方面を含む。即ち、治療、終えば冷凍性拡大は平地物工 のまれ。

以下の配配はかいて、実践のの様としい情報及び用と比較するを 取の方ので、減145のデーベールとも参加とよる機関的機能化を付 用する。しゃしなから、土産機関での関連を終められていことで、同 収め着を有する他の機能の活性化力をが・→1人を示してもる。 ことですることが経路される。

過元形は国体、状体又は其体でありうる。文、二叉はそれ以上の 通元形を関すれば用いうる。間に選売時により、夏元工権は、企業 也合物(間)の匹物及び指金の関は成成又はその途(で起こら、この 工程は、金属、合金又はセット、ック材料が形成するまで終く。 選申及は実施書館別により、気容は、基本ものサービールとしか。 サービーが書間所によりまじた時間は金融を出物設置と表示意思 との機能の代表として出まる。万世の海軍は、海文をのている金庫 化金強(種)と称いられる第二パラノーターに受ける。ませる国際 エキルター、 無規減能、オールプトを実置と、ボーベ業品、ボー の意、じーがの外域、選集、で選集とが指列すると、同時別又 に他の万円減略的の物域、企業、で選集とが用分すると、同時別と して、 生地の方円減略のの形成と、 一般ので、 一般ので、

加工ペラメーターは、処理される材料薬の他質及び用いた環境的 関語化に体存する。実施例の方差により、以下の高エモルギーザー ルミル管理に関したパラシック・が済ましい。

耐災エネルギャ 0.1−1.0 J、より好ましくは約0.2

着皮を重ね 1~200円 3

ボール/粉液質症比 2:1ないじ40:1、より好ましくは

10:121-180:1

1.の物語的類 7.2時間以下、より停ましくは2.4時間 以下

常願菜 無体水業又は不思ながえ、例えばテルゴン 又は機能は最近がか急数が100万里サリ

通常制 きても不規模を示。例えばかまりやコン あまるルギーボート(小物中の間、しみ内の最初の表別ではこと りを向する外により上升する。別えて、表質的重な形から発現研究 が必要に何知的上升を載さしても、みる場合には、から返産が必分 に多く、そのため、単位成分の形式を呼が終まされてかし、物本の 数別が必うかも、この日ご供売工程は、「日ごは用品を含む」(。 は「Freenantials Not leaderties volution) として取られてい も、の日本内の間とではする場合形は、おくしゃわれによりると 考えたわりる。

増持に要するしん影験動性。した動物の初めの対象をしたる体

全すること、特別の即注的だに適した特別不動(Sender estationes s) を専門すること、水いで1年特別工商を促すことにより本質が に強くしうる。この単図は、又、連載的1ル特別の間に複数がない よりなの反応に自身を配くてのに乗いうる。

本規柄の対抗は、又、異核的補強化の特別として、組織物理協立
の金質、食金物又はマラミック材料料を過減金板するのに用いうる。
これらの場所を予は、1119リン又はそれ以下の核実を行しうる。

上貼のように、現元別は原体、皮体又は気体でありうる。疾病面

料理定期は、減い電気的動物器は、例えばカルトアム、マブルトの よ及びテットリアルも会し、適当の前決理定形は、反化決策等に管轄 したアルキルイテの本版、関係アンキュアに課題したアルテラ金版 現在びアットウムーボリウム合金類と会じ、次決層形所の例は、水 点、電気びアットウムーボリウム合金類と会じ、次決層形所の例は、水 点、電気など

無減利益性の単隔のから、最美額は集集的化学を設けより収息 血液剤から他ままれる。 例えば、カルソフト金集を重要利えして 思いると、降られる無化マルソフルは、水との変形により水動きれ うる。 吹いて持られる水準化カルソフルを通常な海底に繋がし、成 あたより除金しりる。 もも場合はは、水池の無収のために最大度が 単位物なしなくてもよい、例えば気にの間に見ばする様の物でがい、 次ででおばれた企会の、所属ではいずかかかの差異を対象したる。 加上の配金から、水角性の自覚の角性や簡素に相乗列機の回居 に関連されているとは等られて出る。または、環代をわる材料ス は最大時代別は、好用機のウミとセーツが簡単であれば、異は、次 の父女気のいくででしょい。

での五無数域料制器及は全域状態(又はそれらの一部)を含む。本品 材の力能はより当成されたまででしょり料料集のアイブは、マラミッ キャク化物能、液化物能、変化物能及び制化物物を含む。例えばヤ フルテナムカム、及び間化リルコエットロ以下の流出により生活し イム。

TIC1.41M4+78 - T.6.+2Ms(),

20Cは4+3Ms+60 - Js(0+ Ms(0・2Ms(0)),

※取得の力速は、X、マイリッグが経過過過過。例入に以下の が応じままれるものを急収するのに用いる2。

27 2 3 7,0・3 5 6 0 + 2 8 0 , - Y 8 s 6 s 0 0 .

1/7 7 1,0・3 5 6 0 + 2 8 0 , - Y 8 s 6 s 0 0 .

メイ2 8 6 0 + 2 6 0 - Y 8 s 6 s 0 .

よ起び近の一つの自身は、機能等の健康を意力、気能管によるようものを動きよりを確定しているとである。

大切した機能が出催した中毒変力的は、機能等によりも効多くの 本特地をで乗用される部間を参加は、三文化やれる上の企業業及 リンスはファッイでの需要の保証からを定される金属機造を かする。 本籍により金成されつる合意がは、正質成分が無砂金属 アループスはコッチェド共列(由土部を表現)からてわるものを含め、 さらに全てのこ場分、五度分支がより高い大型の自主等を促じ、よ クタルト付款物質は、アフェイを入れませる意思。 おんぱから無又 は最大、男人は、男人を実施人人物では対象の物では、例んばけん、 アループは、男人は、男人を実施人人物では対象の物では、例んばけん、 アルースにあり合うか。

- 方点は、最先拡合媒化合物膜から、高温度を用いることなく実 相対に対応収を無信を信頼を信頼を考えませる。
- 方添は、超光効化合物がから、成合物が可隔的企業等にまず加工し、次いで合金額を別数するために終移金属薬を提出することなる。 数金金属物を破除を成立とる。
- 3. 万宝は、バルク金属、自会又は49 じょり利用をまず知改し、次いでそれを特末形に変えることなく、粉末生成物を直開形成ませる。
- 4. 万歳は、金銭、金金又はセラミック料料をまず金減し、次いで 総費植度拡子を企業させることなく、金寅等、含金婦又はセラ ミック料料の確抑能度拡子を虚認が取立させる。
- 利息(1)ないじ(4)は、環境の高速度(機解/用品及は料水均差) を用いて並成することが簡単である状態化光差類なび合金、用えば 等上質支援の場合に発置である。 降られる並成物は、空時間の物策 冶金へ心が可に関している。
- 本共可を以下の実施的により記念し、示す。これらの実施的は、

特表平4-502490(6)

断(*弁許強、仮念は恋地した。4.希特条だ後、様化でキシッム と角度ボラルンの入事、水との反応によりC+O 作力化することを 他を指す的技術を明いて除るした。次いで導ふれるG+(O K)・を発 使物性体腫し、維持により検索した。

9984

専用を発展のまれば300として)及びない(500として)を政治的な 及びまのよかが10%高級のカルシガムを共化関係した機能した。 この表現では、機パイナルもなどに活躍し、アルダンダスを活成 原因派として何いた。14秒の時間は24円であった。14秒か の機丁にないて、施原電は3*でようの連貫的ためず及び10℃からなった。 14種間には、100円ではないで、100円であった。

C=C+ZnO+2C。 +> 2C=O+GuZn(8*東5+3)
である。

T:C).+2Mg → T(+2MgC)。 を生じ時間や開放として次変に響きた。16時間の1.9份時間、反 が出れていまった。しゃ物や最に関係的を対点に出れては、 次、機が一つを実化ケンダスタンに置き点よた以外の実施を 成したようにしていかやした。物本をそる時間まで値つの特殊で にを考した場合した。かしのからしか粉やは、自然表生的情報を がおの場所を定くかられまからか、遅大型の次元を表によっ 場立した。かは上述の支配を表によっ、こ。この、こ。こ の、こられ、こののがじいこのこかが変を表して、さらになる わめるしまが出来、概算が異なるを必要をあして、さらになる わめるしまが出来、概算が異なるを介定され、形式する最終的 なののまでしてかった。

実施的を 機化額及びニッケルを実際表をのようにこル始等した。その動物 は選挙を決。

毎当じ、24時間のよか秘跡後、気応が充了するように次派に結合 た。実施前24時間のような自己収扱の整理は見られなかった。

恋が見てした。そん前後の常了なないで、以下の手段の一つを用い

CEO+NI - CV+NIC

TM1C 1.及び音で図知られて1から発生した。

単級 1、1・科技的表生なか1の対けC1の思想で表かしM₂C
1.及びMacを解し、現じて自然で表表と場合した。それままた
5、M1cを表現がMac。10・**1・エルグ変圧、そのでですよ体
MMC実践がLより発出した。それ1万立2の発展、それが1、30。
2点が2ヵ×2年30分余でするです。それ

大阪的の

「高級なデナルター及びデザカンフルを、1人級的をベイブルの冷

即することはより。それでの意味で減当したことは月末期内の三花

明したようは、4分割した。ことでで、原母化デナンクルが深外

(出土・ことでで、1人物的が選択点であげった。1分割の1人の

あわれ、原意地変でした。

命金T | マラ科Y - 4%Aをなり戻するのに適した量のT | C f.、 V C t.及びA gC f. を | 5%連載マグエレウムと共にとル料取した。

■ ★ | 4 | 1 | 1

(ア) では誰

	特表平4-502490(7)
した野谷は、実施例され記載したように実施し、合金桁米が18時	時間しゃ新年した飲料では規則は1秒後に起こう、5時間後では推
間後に影響した。	最は8秒後に超こり、一方、4,5時間1ル份券した試料では最適
海旭 伊息	は起きなかった。
等表子質量の函給(ZaOとして)及びナチュウムを、10%週制	表施哲学
のテタニウムにとちは実験的しは記載したように転換した粉砕した。	私下の気感は、実施例1におけるようは、表外の反応物質をしル
X線扇所分野は、医吃:	総幹することにより実施した。10%の化学量論的に透明の遺孔期
22:0+T1 - 22x+T10,	を含む的なグラムの貯率を含葉酸で用いた。しゅ効果硬制は飲むな
が約5齢離後隔地し、69時間後は本質的に完了したことを示した。	いしる8時間に改った。
無視式能対能量なかった。	SCHO+ SAE - SCE+AGO,
別の草の試験で、試料をお、お時間まん制みした。また街路は、	CuO+Ms → Cu+MsO
2及び13時間の間の時間の一定期間が止した。)3時間保持した	2Ca0+T; - 2Ca+7;0.
直移では、燃焼は、1ル投降を再開地性2形に起きた。依頼に関す	C40+C C4+C.0

実施例:0

全体組成するaccuso、。を与えるのに強した質量のYaOo、 Ba 及びCeCを発現例2は記載されるようにもル筋砕した。約18分 のしル特許級、反応:

そ終端は保持時間の減少と共に増加し、も特別保険した契約につい

では、影像は1ヶ崎体を再開施後で3秒で記また。発光は2時間景

止を得った試料では見られなかった。13時間保持後の機能に要す

も特額は、施備:の物際関係の増加を共に指少することが何か、6

1/2Y, O. + 2 Ba+ 8 CuO - Y Ba, Cu, O. . が逆旋反応により起るた。

が説情度応により起きた。

全体を取する。,Cu,O,を与えるのに適した質素ので、BaO,反 グCmOを実施刊とに記載されるようによみ始別した。約14分の (水物母类、反形)

Y + 2 8 + 0 , + 8 C + 0 - Y 8 + C + 0 .

F .. O . + 3 C . - 2 F . + 8 C . O

5T1+27,0, - 4V+3710,

40.0+\$F+ - 40+f+0.

Z=04C+ - 3+4C+C

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PROCESS FOR THE PRODUCTION OF METALS, ALLOYS AND CERAMIC MATERIALS

Also published as: Publication number: JP4502490 (T) Publication date: 1992.05.07 NO9007012 (A1) Inventor(s): ZA8909850 (A) Applicant(s): US5328501 (A) Classification: NZ231941 (A) - international: C01G3/00; B22F1/00; B22F9/04; B22F9/18; B22F9/20; T KR960014946 (B1) C01G1/00; C04B35/45; C04B35/65; C22B5/00; C22B5/04; C22B5/12; C22C1/00; C22C1/04; C22C1/05; C22C1/10; more >> H01L39/24; C01G3/00; B22F1/00; B22F9/02; B22F9/16; C01G1/00; C04B35/01; C04B35/65; C22B5/00; C22C1/00; C22C1/04; C22C1/05; C22C1/10; H01L39/24; (IPC1-7): B22F1/00; C01G1/00; C01G3/00; C22B5/00; C22C1/04; C22C1/05 B22F9/04; B22F9/18; C04B35/45; C04B35/65; C22B5/00; - European: C22B5/04; C22B5/12; C22C1/00; C22C1/10F; H01L39/24J

Priority number(s): AU1988PJ02092 19881222 Abstract not available for JP 4502490 (T) Abstract of corresponding document: WO 9007012 (A1)

Application number: JP19890501670 19891221

A process for the production of a metal, alloy or ceramic material which comprises subjecting a mixture of at least one reducible metal compound and at least one reducing agent to mechanical activation to produce a metal or alloy. A ceramic material may be produced by including a nonmetal, or a compound which provides the non-metal, in the reaction mixture. At least one other metal or a metalloid may also be included in the reaction mixture for incorporation into the ceramic material or alloy.

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INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(21) International Application Number: PCT/AU89/00550 (22) International Piling Date: 21 December 1989 (21.12.89) (23) Priority data: 22 December 1988 (22.12.89) (24) Applicant (for all designated States except US): THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA (AU/AU): Neclands, WA. 6009 (AU). (72) Inventors; and designated States except US): THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA (AU/AU): Neclands, WA. 6009 (AU). (73) Inventors; and the time limit for amending the data on the republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.
(19) Interest Applicable (19) 104 Cotalow Stores, South Perft, W.A. 6151 (AU), SCHAFFER, Graham, Barry [IE/AU]; 370 Barker Road, Subliaco, W.A. 6008 (AU), STOREST, Terence, G. et al.; Davies and Collison, I Little Collins Street, Melbourne, VIC 3600 (AU).

(57) Abstract

A process for the production of a metal, alloy or ceramic material which comprises subjecting a mixture of at least one reducible metal compound and at least one reducing agent to mechanical activation to produce a metal or alloy. A ceramic material may be produced by including a non-metal, or a compound which provides the non-metal, in the reaction mixture. At least one other metal or a metalloid may also be included in the reaction mixture for incorporation into the ceramic material or alloy.

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PROCESS FOR THE PRODUCTION OF METALS, ALLOYS AND CERAMIC MATERIALS

25 This invention relates to a process for the production of metals, alloys and ceramic materials. More specifically, the invention is concerned with the mechanically activated chemical reduction of reducible metal compound(s) to produce metals, alloys or ceramic 30 materials.

Most metallic elements occur in nature as oxides sulphides or phosphates in ore bodies. The refining process generally involves separation of pure oxides, 35 sulphides and/or phosphates from the ore, and one or more reduction processes to convert the oxide, sulphide and/or phosphate to pure metal.

While the reduction process is specific to the 40 particular element being refined, it usually involves either a chemical reaction, where the oxide, sulphide and/or phosphate is reduced by a second, more electro-positive element, or an electrochemical reaction driven by an electrical potential. Chemical reduction processes frequently require high temperatures, with one or more of the reactants being in the gas or liquid phase, 5 so that sufficiently high reaction rates can be achieved.

In most conventional processes, pure metals are produced which are then mixed with other metals to form alloys using various melting and casting techniques. In some instances, where the production of alloys from pure metals is technically difficult or costly, it is possible to design chemical reduction processes which start with an appropriate mixture of metal oxides. The oxide mixture is directly reduced in a single step to the desired alloy composition by the addition of an appropriate reducing agent and high temperatures. Such processes include the reduction diffusion process and the co-reduction process used in the production of rare earth magnets. These processes use calcium as the reducing agent and involve heating to temperatures of above 1000°C.

An alternative process to the production of alloys by melting their pure constituents is known as mechanical alloying. Mechanical alloying enables the production of 25 alloys from powders of the pure constituents without the need for melting or high temperatures. The mechanical alloying process may be carried out in a high energy ball mill. The milling action causes repeated fracture and cold welding of the powder particles during 30 ball-powder-ball and ball-powder-container collisions. The alloying process takes place as an inter-diffusion

reaction across atomically clean surfaces joined by cold welding. Given sufficient time, the mechanical alloying process can produce a true alloy at the atomic level. It has been shown that it is possible to prepare certain alloys by the mechanical alloying process which were otherwise impossible to prepare by conventional means. It has also been shown that mechanical alloying can be used 5 to produce amorphous alloys, particularly when the elemental powders exhibit a large positive heat of reaction, as well as intermetallic compounds and dispersion hardened alloys.

The present invention is concerned with a new chemical reduction process termed "mechanically activated chemical reduction" for manufacturing metals or alloys from reducible metal compound(s). The mechanically activated chemical reduction process is essentially an 15 adapation of the mechanical alloying process. During the mechanically activated chemical reduction, chemical reduction reactions are caused to occur, as a consequence of the mechanical action, which results in the reduction

of the metal compound(s) to the metal or alloy.

20

The mechanically activated chemical reduction process of the present invention also extends to the production of ceramic materials, that is, materials which contain one or more phases that are compounds of metals 25 and non-metals. Thus, the process is capable of producing products which range from pure metals and their alloys with other metals or metalloids through to ceramic materials, which may also include metals and/or metalloids in their composition.

30

According to the present invention there is provided a process for the production of a metal, alloy or ceramic material, characterised in that: a mixture of at least one reducible metal compound and at least one reducing agent is subjected to mechanical activation to produce a metal or alloy product;

optionally a non-metal, or a compound which provides
the non-metal, is included in the reaction mixture
to produce a ceramic material product; and/or

- 10 optionally at least one other metal or a metalloid is included in the reaction mixture for incorporation into the ceramic material or alloy product.
- 15 Thus, in one aspect of the process, a reducible metal compound is subjected to mechanical activation in the presence of at least one reducing agent to produce a metal product.
- 20 In another aspect, two or more reducible metal compounds may be used to produce a mixture of metals or an alloy product.

Alternatively or additionally a further metal and/or 25 metalloid may be included in the reaction mixture so that the further metal and/or metalloid is incorporated into the metal, metal mixture or alloy product.

In a still further embodiment, a non-metal, or 30 compound which provides the non-metal, may be included in the reaction mixture to produce a ceramic material.

Here again, a further metal and/or metalloid may be included the reaction mixture so that the further metal

and/or metalloid is incorporated into the ceramic material product.

In a particularly preferred embodiment, the 5 mechanical activation is produced by high energy ball milling. The term "high energy milling" refers to a condition which is developed in the ball mill when sufficient mechanical energy is applied to the total charge such that a substantial portion of the ball 10 elements are continuously and kinetically maintained in a state of relative motion and that the energy imparted to the balls is sufficient to cause fracture and welding of powder particles during ball-powder-ball and ball-powder-container collisions.

15

In the high energy ball mill, solid particles, such as, the metal compound(s), non-metal(s) or the compound(s) which provide the non-metal(s), and the reducing agent particles are repeatedly deformed, 20 fractured and rewelded. When particles are trapped between colliding balls, the force of the impact deforms and fractures particles, creating atomically clean new surfaces. When the clean surfaces come in contact, they weld together. Since such surfaces readily oxidize, the 25 milling operation is preferably conducted in an inert or reducing atmosphere.

The high energy ball mill may be of any suitable known type. For example, the mill may comprise a vertical 30 drum with a series of impellers inside it. A powerful motor rotates the impellers, which in turn agitate the steel balls in the drum. Such a machine can achieve grinding rates more than ten times higher than those typical of a conventional mill. A mill of this type,

commonly known as an "attritor", is described in U.S. Patent No. 2,764,359 and in Perry's Chemical Engineer's Handbook, 5th edition, 1973, at pages 8-29 to 8-30. Alternatively, the high energy ball mill may be a gravity 5 dependent ball mill such as that described in U.S. Patent No. 4,627,959.

It will be appreciated that the mechanical activation may be achieved by means other than high energy 10 ball milling. In this specification, the term 'mechanical activation' includes any process which causes deformation, welding and fracture of the powder particles by mechanical means, and thus includes processes such as, cold rolling or extrusion.

15

For convenience, in the following description, relating to preferred aspects and features of the invention, reference will be made to mechanical activation by high energy ball milling. It will be appreciated, 20 however, that the invention is not limited to this technique and that other mechanical activation processes having the same effects can be substituted for ball milling.

The reducing agent may be solid, liquid or gaseous, and two or more reducing agents may be used if required. With solid reducing agents the reduction reaction occurs at or near the interfaces during the compaction and welding of the metal compound(s) and the reducing agent 30 particles. This process continues until the metal, alloy or ceramic material is formed.

With liquid or gaseous reducing agents, the reaction occurs as a result of the contact of fresh metal compound

surfaces created by the ball/powder collisions in the high energy ball mill with the reducing atmosphere. The efficiency of the process will depend on the nature of the metal compound(s) being reduced and the processing parameters used. The latter include collision energy, collision frequency, ball/powder mass ratio, ball mass, number of balls, milling time, temperature, atmosphere and lubricant. The addition of a lubricant or other process control agent may enhance the environment in which the 10 metal compounds are reduced. The lubricant or other process control agent modifies the rates of fracture and welding and may act as a thermal diluent, preventing

The processing parameters depend on the nature of the materials treated and the mechanical activation employed. By way of example, the following parameters for high energy ball milling are preferred.

20 Collision energy:

combustion.

0.1 - 1.0J, more preferably

about 0.25J

Collision frequency:

1 - 200 Hz

25 Ball/powder mass ratio:

2:1 to 40:1, more preferably

10:1 to 30:1

Milling time:

less than 72 hours, more

preferably less than 24 hours

30 Atmosphere: gaseous hydrogen or an inert gas, for

example, argon or nitrogen with residual oxygen and water contents less than 100 parts

per million

35 Lubricant:

any inert liquid, for example, anhydrous

toluene

During high energy ball milling, the temperature in the mill will rise due to the heat generated by the collision processes. In addition, the exothermic nature 5 of the mechanical reduction reaction may cause an additional rise in temperature. In some cases, the reaction rate will be sufficiently high so that self-combustion of the constituents will result and melting of the powders may occur. This self-combustion 10 process is known as "self-propagating high temperature synthesis". The products formed during the self-combustion may be further reduced by subsequent milling.

The milling time required for combustion may be substantially shortened by stopping the mill after an initial period of milling, keeping the powder stationary for a fixed period of time and then recommencing the milling process. This procedure may also be used to cause 20 combustion to occur in those reactions where there is no combustion during continuous milling.

The process of the invention may also be used to produce ultra-fine grain size particles of metals, alloys 25 or ceramic materials directly as a consequence of the mechanical activation. These ultra-fine particles may have a grain size of 1 micron or less.

The process is applicable to the reduction of a wide 30 range of metal compounds including oxides, sulphides, halides, hydrides, nitrides, carbides and/or phosphates. The only limitations are that there must be a negative free energy change associated with the reduction process. It is necessary that the particles of solid reaction

materials are fractured during the mechanical activation to expose fresh surfaces to the reducing agent. The fracturing may also occur as a result of the chemical reactions occurring in the system.

5

As described above, the reducing agent may be solid, liquid or gaseous. Candidate solid reducing agents include highly electronegative solids such as calcium, magnesium and sodium. Suitable liquid reducing agents 10 include lithium alkyls dissolved in hydrocarbons, alkali metals dissolved in liquid ammonia and sodium-potassium alloys. Examples of gaseous reducing agents include hydrogen, chlorine and carbon monoxide.

- On completion of the mechanical activation, the reducing agent may be removed from the reaction product by standard chemical means. For example, where calcium metal is used as the reducing agent, the resulting calcium oxide may be hydrated by reacting it with water. The
- 20 resultant calcium hydroxide may then be dissolved in a suitable solvent and removed by filtration. In some instances, it may not be necessary to remove the reducing elements on completion of the process. For example, the oxide particles formed during the reaction may then form
- 25 the basis of the hard phase in a dispersion hardened alloy.

It will be appreciated from the above description that the invention is not limited to the use of any particular metal compounds or reducing agents.

30 Furthermore, the material being reduced or the reducing agent(s) may be either solid, liquid or gas with the proviso that at least one of the materials is solid.

30

The term "alloy" as used herein refers to a metallic solid formed from an intimate combination of two or more metals and/or metalloids. The alloys which may be produced by the invention include those where the major 5 element is from the transition metal group or the lanthanide series (the rare earths) and further include all binary, tertiary and higher order alloys. Minor additions may include metalloids or non-metals such as boron or carbon, for example, in the production of rare 10 earth permanent magnet materials, such as, Nd₁₆Fe₂₆B₈.

The alloys may be single phase solid solutions, stoichiometric compounds or consist of two or more phases where each phase may be a solid solution or stoichiometric 15 compound. Examples of the metals and/or alloys which may be produced by the process include copper, zinc, iron, titanium, alpha or beta brass (CuZn), NiTi, SmCo5 and Misch metal.

The term "ceramic material" as used herein refers to a material which contains one or more phases that are compounds of metals and non-metals. Ceramic materials comprise all engineering materials or products (or portions thereof) that are chemically inorganic, except 25 metals and alloys. The types of ceramic materials that may be produced by the process of the invention include ceramic borides, carbides, nitrides and oxides. For example, titanium boride and zirconium carbide may be produced by the following reactions:

$$ZrCl_4 + 3Mg + CO + ZrC + MgO + 2MgCl_2$$
.

The process of the invention may also be used to produce ceramic material superconductors, for example as shown in the following reactions:

5 $1/2Y_2O_3 + 3CuO + 2Ba + YBa_2Cu_3O_{4.5}$ $1/2Y_2O_3 + 3 CaO + Ba + BaO_2 + YBa_2Cu_3O_{6.5}$ $Y + 2BaO_2 + 3CuO + YBa_2Cu_3O_7$.

One advantage of the above reactions is that the 10 oxygen content of the superconductor is fixed by the stoichiometry rather than by thermal treatment.

The mechanically activated chemical reduction process described above additionally possess a number of 15 advantages over conventional processing:

 The process allows the direct formation of substantially pure metals from reducible metal compounds, without the use of high temperatures.

- The process allows the direct formation of crystalline or amorphous alloys from reducible metal compounds without first having to process the compounds into pure metals and then combine the pure
 metals to form the alloys.
 - The process allows the direct formation of powder products, without having to first manufacture the bulk metal, alloy or ceramic material and then
- 30 convert it to a powder form.
 - The process allows the direct formation of ultra-fine grain size particles of metals, alloys or ceramic material without having to first produce the

metal, alloy or ceramic material and then generate ultra-fine grain size particles.

Advantages (1) to (4) are important in the case of 5 reactive elements and alloys, such as the rare earths, which are difficult to produce using conventional high temperature (melt/cast or powder metallurgy) technologies. The resulting product should be suitable for a wide range of powder metallurgical applications.

The invention is further described in and illustrated by the following examples. These examples are not to be construed as limiting the invention in any way.

15 Example 1

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Copper oxide and calcium were milled together using toluene as a lubricant in an inert atmosphere (N₂ gas) using a SPEX Model 8000 mixer/mill, hardened steel vial 20 and 3 tungsten carbide balls. The total mass of the balls was approximately 24 grams and the ball to powder mass ratio was approximately 3:1. Equal atomic masses of copper (as copper oxide) and calcium, together with an additional 10% of calcium were milled for up to 24 hours. 25 Approximately 6ml of toluene was used as the lubricant. Following milling the products of the reaction were identified by X-ray diffraction. The milling was found to cause the reaction:

30 CuO + Ca + Cu + CaO

to occur progressively as a function of time. After 24 hours milling the reaction was complete.

At the completion of milling, the calcium oxide and the unreacted calcium were removed using a standard technique which involved hydrating the CaO by reacting 5 with water. The resulting ${\rm Ca(OH)}_2$ was then dissolved in dilute mineral acid and removed by filtration.

Example 2

10 Copper oxide and calcium were milled together as detailed in Example 1, with the exception that no lubricant was added to the powders prior to milling and the steel balls were substituted for tungsten carbide. The powders were "dry" milled for various times up to 24 15 hours. After approximately 10 minutes of milling sufficient heat was generated by the exothermic heat of reaction of the reduction process, to cause spontaneous combustion and melting of the powders. Examination of the resulting products of the combustion process showed the 20 presence of Cu, CuO, Ca, CaO, CaCu₅, Cu₂O and Cu₂CaO₃. After milling for a further 24 hours, mechanical reduction and alloying occurred such that the final phases present were CaO and Cu.

25 Example 3

Copper oxide and nickel were milled together as in Example 2. Milling caused the reduction reaction:

30 CuO + Ni + Cu + NiO

to occur progressively such that after 24 hours milling the reaction was complete. No evidence of self-combustion as in Example 2 was observed.

Example 4

Equal atomic masses of Zn (as ZnO) and Cu (as CuO) 5 were dry milled with 10% excess calcium as per Examples 2 and 3. In this experiment the steel vial was cooled to 0°C and argon gas was used as the inert atmosphere. The milling time was 24 hours. At the completion of milling, the products consisted of the β ' CuZn intermetallic phase 10 and CaO. The relevant reaction is:

Example 5

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Equal atomic masses of titanium (as liquid titanium tetrachloride) and magnesium, together with an additional 15% magnesium were milled as in Example 1 using eight stainless steel balls of total mass 86 grams. The milling 20 caused the reaction:

to occur progressively as a function of time. After 16 25 hours milling, the reaction was complete. At the completion of milling one of the following procedures was used to remove the MgCl, and unreacted Mg from the Ti.

In procedure 1, the milled powder was washed in a 30 solution of 10% HCl in water to dissolve the MgCl₂ and Mg, followed by washing in distilled water and filtration. With procedure 2, the MgCl₂ and Mg were removed by vacuum distillation for 24 hours at 900°C under a vacuum of 10⁻⁵ torr. Procedures 1 and 2 resulted in average powder sizes 35 of approximately 0.2 and 2µm, respectively.

Example 6

Titanium tetrachloride and magnesium were milled 5 together as described in Example 5, except that the milling was carried out at a temperature of -55°C by cooling the vial. At -55°C titanium tetrachloride is a solid (m.p. = -24°C) and milling involved a solid state reaction. After 3 hours milling, the reaction was 10 complete.

Example 7

Appropriate amounts of TiCl₄, VCl₃ and AlCl₃ to form 15 the alloy Ti-6\$V-4\$Al were milled with 15\$ excess magnesium. The milling was carried out as described in Example 5 with the alloy powder being formed after 18 hours.

20 Example 8

Equal atomic masses of zinc (as ZnO) and titanium, together with an excess 10% titanium were dry milled as described in Example 1. X-ray diffraction analysis showed 25 that the reaction:

2ZnO + Ti + 2Zn + TiO2

had initiated after approximately 5 hours and was 30 essentially complete after 49 hours. A combustion reaction did not occur.

In a separate series of tests the samples were milled for 5.5 hours. The mill was turned off for periods

of time between 2 and 13 hours. In the sample held for 13 hours, combustion occurred 2 seconds after milling was restarted. The time required for combustion increased with decreasing holding time, such that for a sample held 5 for 6 hours, combustion occurred 73 seconds after the mill was restarted. Combustion was not observed in a sample held stationary for 2 hours. The time required for combustion after holding for 13 hours was found to decrease with an increase in the initial milling time; 10 such that in a sample milled for 6 hours, combustion occurred after 1 second; after 5 hours, combustion occurred after 3 seconds while no combustion occurred in the sample milled for 4.5 hours.

15 Example 9

The following reactions were carried out by milling the indicated reactants together as in Example 1. Approximately 8 grams of powders were used in all tests, 20 including a 10% stoichiometric excess of the reducing agent. Milling times ranged from a few seconds to 48 hours.

Example 10

Appropriate masses of Y_2O_3 , Ba and CuO to give the overall composition $YBa_2Cu_3O_4$, 5 were milled together as 5 described in Example 2. After approximately 15 minutes of milling the reaction:

$$1/2Y_2O_3 + 2Ba + 3CuO + YBa_2Cu_3O_{4.5}$$

10 occurred by a combustion reaction.

Example 11

Appropriate masses of Y, BaO₂ and CuO to give the 15 overall composition YBa₂Cu₃O₇ were milled together as described in Example 2. After approximately 14 minutes of milling the reaction:

20

occurred by a combustion reaction.

CLAIMS:

- A process for the production of a metal, alloy or ceramic material, characterised in that:
 - a mixture of at least one reducible metal compound and at least one reducing agent is subjected to mechanical activation to produce a metal or alloy product;
- optionally a non-metal, or a compound which provides
 the non-metal, is included in the reaction mixture
 to produce a ceramic material product; and/or
- optionally at least one other metal or a metalloid is included in the reaction mixture for incorporation into the ceramic material or alloy product.
- 20 2. A process as claimed in Claim 1, characterised in that a reducible metal compound is subjected to mechanical activation in the presence of at least one reducing agent to produce a metal product.
- 25 3. A process as claimed in Claim 1, characterised in that two or more reducible metal compounds are subjected to mechanical activation in the presence of at least one reducing agent used to produce a mixture of metals or an alloy product.
 - 4. A process as claimed in Claim 2 or Claim 3, characterised in that a further metal and/or a metalloid is included in the reaction mixture so that the further metal and/or metalloid is incorporated into the metal,
- 35 metal mixture or alloy product.

- 5. A process as claimed in Claim 1, characterised in that at least one reducible metal compound is subjected to mechanical activation in the presence of at least one 5 reducing agent and a non-metal, or compound which provides the non-metal, to produce a ceramic material product.
 - 6. A process as claimed in Claim 5, characterised in that a further metal and/or metalloid is included in the
- 10 reaction mixture so that the further metal and/or metalloid is incorporated into the ceramic material product.
- A process as claimed in any one of the preceding
 claims, characterised in that the reaction mixture is mechanically activated by high energy ball milling.
- A process as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the mechanical activation is 20 conducted in an inert or reducing atmosphere.
 - A process as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that a lubricant is added to the reaction mixture.
 - 10. A process as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the mechanical activation is carried out intermittently.
- 30 11. A process as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the reducible metal compound is selected from metal oxides, sulphides, halides, hydrides, nitrides, carbides and/or phosphates.

- 12. A process as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the reducing agent is a solid selected from calcium, magnesium and sodium.
- 5 13. A process as claimed in any one of Claims 1 to 11 characterised in that the reducing agent is a liquid selected from lithium alkyls dissolved in hydrocarbons, alkali metals dissolved in liquid ammonia and a sodium-potassium alloy.

- 14. A process as claimed in any one of Claims 1 to 11 characterised in that the reducing agent is a gas selected from hydrogen, chlorine and carbon monoxide.
- 15 15. A process as claimed in any one of the preceding claims characterised in that the metal, alloy or ceramic material produced by the process has ultra-fine grain size particles.
- 20 16. A process as claimed in any one of Claims 1 or 5 to 15 characterised in that the ceramic material product is a ceramic boride, carbide, nitride or oxide.
- 17. A process as claimed in any one of Claims 1 or 5 to
- 25 16 characterised in that the ceramic material product is a superconductor.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No. PCT/AII 89/00550

		international Applicati	on io. Lot/Wh ga/002						
I. CL	ASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER (if several cl	assification symbols apply	, indicate all) 6						
Accordi	ng to International Patent Classification (IP	C) or to both National Cla	ssification and IPC						
<u>i</u>	.4 C22B 5/00, 5/04, 5/12; C22C 1/04, 1/10;	C04B 35/00							
II. FI	ELDS SEARCHED								
	Hinia	um Documentation Searched	7						
Classifi	Classification System Classification Symbols								
IPC C22B 5/00, 5/04, 5/12; C22C 1/04, 1/10; C04B 35/00									
Documentation Searched other than Minimum Documentation to the Extent that such Documents are Included in the Fields Searched 8									
AU : as above									
	UMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT 9								
Category	Citation of Document, 11 with indication of the relevant passages		Relevant to						
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A	FR,A, 856598 (GEUTSCHE GOLD-UND SILBER SCHE (18.06.40)	(1 - 17)							
Α .	 FR.A. 1100993 (MEDVEDIEFF) 27 September 195	(1 - 17)							
٨	US,A, 4668282 (GILMAN et al) 26 May 1987 (2	(1 - 17)							
P, A	WO,A, 89/10194 (SCIENTIFIC GENERICS LTD) 2 1 (02.11.89)	(1 - 17)							
		(Continued)							
* Spec	* Special categories of cited documents: 10 'T' later document published after the								
A document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance underlying the invention									
'E' earl	ier document but published on or "X"	document of particular re							
	r the international filing date ment which may throw doubts on priority	claimed invention cannot i							
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publication date of another citation or "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to claimed invention cannot be considered to document referring to an oral disclosure, involve an inventive step when the document									
use,	use, exhibition or other means is combined with one or more other such ["P" document published prior to the documents, such combination being obvious to								
international filing date but later than the priority date claimed a person skilled in the art. ** document member of the same patent family									
IV. CERT									
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FUR	THER :	INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM THE SECOND SHEET						
A	_	DERUENT ABSTRACT ACCESSION NO. 87-248251/35, C SU,A, 1281550 (VNITENERGOTSVETMET) 7 January 1	lass LO2, 1987 (07.01.87)	(1	- 17)			
A		DERWENT ABSTRACT ACCESSION NO. 87-190393/27, C SU,A, 1169263 (AS SIBE MINERAL ORE) 23 November	Class P53, er 1986 (23.11.86)	(I	- 17)			
A		DE,A, 1261326 (DRING. HELMUT v. ZEPPELIN) 15 (15.02.68)	5 February 1968	a.	- 17)			
				- 1				
v.	[]	OBSERVATIONS WHERE CERTAIN CLAIMS WERE FOUND	UNSEARCHABLE 1					
Thi	s int	ernational search report has not been established	in respect of cer	tain claim	under Article			
17(2	2)(4)	for the following reasons:						
1	1.[]	Claim numbers, because they relate to subject searched by this Authority, namely:	t matter not requ	red to be				
. 2	2.[] clais numbers, because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:							
3	.[]	Claim numbers, because they are dependent cl with the second and third sentences of PCT Rule		irafted in a	ccordance			
VI.	[]	OBSERVATIONS WHERE UNITY OF INVENTION IS LACK	ING s					
This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application as follows:								
1.		is all required additional search fees were timel tearch report covers all searchable claims of the			international			
2. [] As only some of the required edditional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search from learning the search report covers only those claims of the international application for which fees were paid, specifically claims:								
3.	1	To required additional search fees were timely painternational search report is restricted to the t is covered by claim numbers:						
4.		us all searchable claims could be searched withou the International Searching Authority did not inv						
Rema []	The	n Protest additional search fees were accompanied by appli- motest accompanied the payment of additional sea						

ANNEX TO THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT ON INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/AU 89/00550

This Annex lists the known "A" publication level patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned international search report. The Australian Fatent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

	ent Document ed in Search Report			Paten	t Family Memb	ers		
US	4668282	AU EP PT	66601/86 229499 83942	ER JP ZA	8700011 62146202 8609425	DR NO	6065/86 865063	

END OF ANNEX